

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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It is not poverty that helps a man; it is the effort by which he throws off the yoke of poverty that enlarges the powers.—David Starr Jordan.

TRY SOMETHING NEW

Every political row in Hawaii seems to bring in another mainland office-holder.

The Republican scrap over the revenue collector's office; the Democratic scrap over the district attorneyship and the latest imbroglio over the Honolulu postmastership, resulted in selections from the mainland. But for the provision of the organic act which limits choice of governors to bona fide residents of Hawaii, the gubernatorial fight might have had a different ending. Always there are senators and representatives with political debts at home to pay, and always they are on the alert for an opportunity to pay them at the expense of some other section of the country. With Hawaiian Democrats clawing and yowling at each other, it is not to be wondered that Congress believes in some cases the interests of efficiency and justice will be preserved by sending here officials involved in no partisan fights and identified with no partisan factions.

President Wilson's record during his few months in office ought to be conclusive proof that he investigates candidates with extreme care, makes up his mind for himself, and at all times has the firmness to stand by his conviction and the political power and adroitness to carry his point with the senate. Protests against the men he has chosen and nominated so far have fallen flat, and those protesting have been made to look foolish.

Why cannot the politicians of Hawaii for once try the method of ceasing their protests when the president makes his nomination and of giving the nominee a fair opportunity to show his worth?

THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY RULES

The Progressive party claims to provide political machinery by which the people can more freely express themselves than has been possible heretofore. The organization has today given out tentative rules that are to be submitted to its members before final adoption, and the provisional committee desires constructive criticism from all those who believe that this new party has a sphere separate and distinct from either of the old parties.

They aim to maintain party integrity not so much through individual candidates as by keeping faith with the voters. Every Progressive office-holder is required by their rules to support the principles incorporated into the platform, and this without reservation of any kind, even if the measure be introduced by a political opponent, and the rules provide for the enforcement of this by the repudiation of any who fail so to do.

They give each precinct club the opportunity of creating its platform, thus promoting the study of the political and economic thought of the day.

They boldly abandon the convention idea, and depend absolutely on the spirit as well as the letter of the new primary laws.

The Progressives want a political party supported only by small contributions from those who believe in the party's aims, and for the first time in Hawaii the party proposes to permit women to membership in its precinct clubs.

Certainly the results will be watched with interest.

AS IT LOOKS TO THE PEOPLE

The supervisors have been given every opportunity to take advantage of the direct-frontage-tax statutes. Civic organizations, improvement clubs and individuals with one voice have urged them to make use of these laws and put the streets of Honolulu in a better and a less humiliating condition. Yet so far nothing of real importance has been done. The two laws to which Honolulu looked forward with such eagerness—seeing in them, as it were, the open sesame to good roads—remain still unused, not even tested.

Two or three bloodless efforts have been made

Elaborate arrangements are being made under the direction of Princess Theresa Wilcox Belliveau for a big benefit luau for the young women and others who took part in the past riding section of the recent Floral Parade. The luau will be held in the park in front of the Young Hotel Saturday afternoon, March 21st, and will be one of the most pretentious affairs of the kind that has been held in Honolulu for a long time. An important feature of the day will be a luau.

Lengthy arguments were heard by Circuit Judge Robinson yesterday and this afternoon on the demurrer to the amended complaint filed by J. A. Ma-

by the supervisors, acting under importunities they could not well ignore, to proceed with street improvements under the statutes. They started to open Bishop street to Bereania and to extend School street. They started; that is all! And it is not unfair to question even the sincerity of the start.

The one objection which citizens believe is actuating—or non-actuating—the board is the objection of political expediency. The statutes are too dangerous, involving a risk of losing too many votes. It is growing doubtful—a possibility almost remote enough to be discarded now—if an earnest and sincere effort will be made by the present board to better Honolulu's streets under these statutes.

No doubt the lawmakers, careful in preparing the laws to overcome any valid objections, overlooked this supervisory stumbling-block. Had they foreseen it, they could have easily created a commission and taken the statutes out of the hands of the board. A difference in viewpoint may account for the oversight. The eyes of the lawmakers were concentrated on the improvement of the city's streets; the supervisors' eyes are too often on the elusive votes.

If the supervisors allow the statutes to remain on the books unused during their present term of office, they may be assured that their non-feasance will rise to confront and haunt them at the next election. The laws will not be relegated to the "dead-letter" class of legislation. The need here is too immense. It does not take a political soothsayer to predict or a crystal-glass to see that one of the important issues of the next election of supervisors will be these so-far-unused but much-needed statutes.

MAINLAND COMMENTS ON THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW

Those in Hawaii who read the Hawaii Educational Review will be interested to know that this publication is attracting much favorable attention on the mainland, and that many letters of commendation have been received by the editors. This periodical is issued jointly by the extension department of the College of Hawaii and the territorial department of public instruction, through the cooperation of the Star-Bulletin. It reaches every public school official and teacher in the territory, and also has a large mainland circulation.

It carries to the mainland accurate data regarding Hawaii's excellent school systems, and thus in addition to its professional aspects, it is an effective agent for publicity. Everyone is interested in the public schools, and news of Hawaii's schools receives universal interest.

Brazil, Ecuador and Honduras are furnishing enough revolutions to keep the Wilson administration busy for some time in "maintaining law and order on the American continents."

Another note has been exchanged between Secretary Bryan and a Mexican general. These Democrats are sure some letter-writers!

One of the things the Wilson administration has no hesitation in recognizing is Southern Democracy.

Possibly it was puzzling over the federal building site figures that broke down Kuhio's health.

The Tammany tiger will not need to change his stripes—they'll be quite a la mode at Sing Sing.

That Mahuka site status would perplex the calm and automatic brain of an adding-machine.

Discernment is shown by the Progressive party in abandoning the convention system.

Texas is still one lap behind Tennessee for federal jobs in Hawaii.

Does Hawaii need a representative at Washington—or not?

Mr. Watson was confirmed as a matter of justice.

Barton seems to be on a barren mission.

goon and others who seek to obtain an injunction restraining the territory and the Lord-Young Engineering Company from continuing the reclamation work in the Kewalo district. Magoon is representing the plaintiffs, Attorney-general Robinson yesterday and this afternoon on the demurrer to the amended complaint filed by J. A. Ma-

Letters OF TIMELY TOPICS

[The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space to anonymous communications.]

OBJECT TO DIGGING UP GRAVE

Honolulu, March 11, 1914.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir:—Believing that time has come when some of the actions of Wm. T. H. Ellerbrock, superintendent of the Oahu Cemetery Association, should be drawn attention to in the public press, we now ask you to allow us a suitable space in your valuable paper for the purpose of publishing the following article, which is self-explanatory.

We believe that Superintendent Ellerbrock should be discharged from his position because of his actions and attitude. This is substantiated by the fact that last Saturday morning, between 7 and 8 o'clock, he deliberately and without authority whatever ordered three Koreans to unearth the grave of one Margaret Apio Akimo, aged four years, who died on Tuesday, and was buried on Friday, the 7th. Not only was he not satisfied with digging out the earth from the grave of the dead, the "apple of our eyes," but he turned the hose on a partly-dug grave and let the water run freely in it. The grave had been dug about three feet, when the Koreans, acting under the direction of Ellerbrock, were found by Miss Maggie Apio, aged 18 years, the older sister of the deceased girl. When she saw this she hurried home, crying "Auwe! Auwe!" Her cry attracted our attention, and on learning the circumstances of the case we ran over to the graveyard and there found the grave

of the deceased being re-covered with earth. Now re-monstrated with Ellerbrock, but receiving no satisfactory answer from him, we decided to publish the story in public press.

Ellerbrock admitted to us later that he ordered the Koreans to work on the grave for the purpose of solidifying the earth. His action, in our opinion, is one of the most outrageous and unhuman that was ever committed in Hawaii nei.

From the time immemorial in Hawaii nei, the dead body of a human being is sacred. This was true of our forefathers and also of the Hawaiians of the present time. We believe this is equally true of the other races. But how Ellerbrock, who is presumed to have good common sense, irrespective of his education, could ever have done such a thing as to order the grave of our loved one unearthed either partly or otherwise, is more than we can understand.

We believe that the dead body of a man should and ought to be left undisturbed, particularly after its burial. But unfortunately for us in this case there is no law in Hawaii nei under which we could prosecute the offender under this charge.

We hope that the trustees of the Oahu Cemetery Association, who, we are informed, consist of reputable and prosperous businessmen in the community, would make a thorough investigation of this matter, and, if they find that Ellerbrock committed the act without authority and against the rules and regulations of the association, then they ought to discharge him immediately. We are reliably informed that Ellerbrock has been doing this kind of a thing in the past without any consideration for the dead.

We are,
JOHN APIO,
MRS. J. K. APIO,
MRS. AKIMO.

LETTER INTERVIEWS

—C. H. BROWN: The new civil service commission is not looking for trouble.

—A. A. WILDER: I hurried back to Hawaii because the weather—not my reception—in the East was so very cold.

—JEFF McCARN: I do not wish to discuss the appointment of U. S. marshal. At some later time, but not now.

—H. K. CASTLE: There will be some fast polo in California this spring. I played in one game at Coronado, with the San Mateo Juniors, and we were badly trimmed by Coronado.

—CAPT. W. H. YOUNG (Lahaina): Company L has been badly handicapped in the past for a rifle range. We will have one soon, and it is believed that Lahaina will develop some crack shots.

—SPENCER BOWEN: Meal tickets and grocery orders seem temporarily to have solved the problem of feeding the workless. I believe the system will prove a success if properly and carefully handled.

—JAMES A. RATH: The new Palama Settlement playground soon is to be opened. It is bound to get in a lot of good work this summer when hundreds of children will be turned loose from the public schools.

—JOSHUA D. TUCKER: My department and the survey department are working overtime these days, as per the governor's orders, and we expect to have the data complete in the very near future on the status and area of all public lands in the territory.

—W. R. FARRINGTON: It beats the band how the "Ad Club spirit" seems to catch people. I thought the session which Bishop Luccock attended was a little bit slow except for the lively speech that the Bishop gave us. It all goes to show that no one likes to be too solemn and serious too long. In my opinion the project nearest to hard work which the Ad Club now has on foot is the improvement of that stretch of belt road on the other side of the island. We'll land it. Constant advertising and publicity never yet failed in a community that is thoroughly alive and needs only to be told where and how to apply the energy. "Sunny Jim" and his committee will solve that problem before long.

The members of the Methodist Sunday school and their friends are invited to an entertainment to be given in the assembly hall of the church Friday evening, at 7:30 o'clock.

Personal Mention

MISS L. McCLARY of Seattle is a visitor at the islands, arriving in the Mongolia.

CHARLES GAY expects to be a passenger for Maui ports in the steamer Claudine, sailing next Monday morning.

J. K. FARLEY will return to Kauai as a passenger in the steamer Kinai leaving Honolulu on next Tuesday evening.

G. R. WELLS is booked as a passenger to Hilo by the steamer Mauna Kea sailing for the Big Island on Saturday afternoon.

P. H. DAVIS, identified with the Standard Oil Company in Sumatra, Mrs. Davis and Miss P. Davis are through passengers in the Mongolia.

AUGUST HECKSCHER, a well known New York business man, with Mrs. Heckscher, were among the passengers in the Mongolia from San Francisco.

DR. O. D. NORTON, a former medical officer connected with the United States navy, now retired, with Mrs. Norton is making a tour of the Far East as a passenger in the Mongolia.

W. H. ALDRIDGE and A. H. Cobb of the Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, which operates extensive properties throughout Korea and Manchuria, are through passengers in the Mongolia.

C. J. HOKE, for the past four years affiliated with Jordan & Company, has assumed the management of that concern, taking the position left vacant by the recent resignation of George B. Curtis.

H. REMILLARD, vice-consul at Hankow, China, and identified with the United States corps for some years, is returning to station as a through passenger in the Pacific Mail liner Mongolia.

FREDERICK STERLING, secretary to the American legation at Peking, China, is returning to his post, after an extended vacation spent along the Atlantic coast. He is a passenger in the Mongolia.

MISS M. L. GILLMAN, postmistress at Fort William McKinley, Manila, and well known to hosts of service people, is a passenger on the Mongolia after a visit to her home in the United States. Miss Gillman was

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greeted by a number of army friends in Honolulu.

JULIAN H. ARNOLD, Mrs. Arnold and two children, are enroute to Chefoo, North China, as passengers in the Pacific Mail liner Mongolia. Mr. Arnold is American consular representative at that port.

H. DREYFUS-BARNEY, a well-known attorney of Paris, France, with Mrs. Dreyfus-Barney, were passengers in the Pacific Mail liner Mongolia enroute to the Far East who decided to remain some weeks at Honolulu.

W. J. GORHAM, president of the United States Rubber Company, with headquarters at New York, was a passenger in the Mongolia who will remain in the islands for some weeks, taking a later steamer for Japan, China and India.

F. L. KIDDER, a prominent hotel man in the East, was numbered among the arrivals in the Pacific Mail liner Mongolia. He will visit the points of interest in the islands before resuming the journey to Japan and China.

MRS. M. WELDON, who is credited with the introduction of a number of new dances to the Pacific Coast society folk, is a through passenger in the Mongolia. She is accompanied by T. Weldon, her son. Mrs. Weldon and her son are said to have evolved a new dance called the Quaker glide.

GALEN M. FISHER, national secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of Japan, who has been visiting in Honolulu and Kauai for the past three weeks, left for the Orient on the Mongolia last

evening, accompanied by Mrs. Fisher and their three children. Mr. Fisher and his family returned to Honolulu yesterday from Kauai.

Y. AKAI, for the past several years manager of the local branch of the Yokohama Specie Bank, was a departing passenger on the Mongolia last evening enroute to Yokohama, to which city he has been called by his company. Mr. Akai was host at a farewell reception at the Mochizuki club Tuesday night, which was attended by more than 200 persons.

CHARLES A. ("CABBY") BROWN and Charles Phillips, who arrived in Honolulu 37 years ago, and who have been residents of this city ever since, are planning a reunion in celebration of the anniversary. From his home in Worcester, Mass., Mr. Brown sailed around the Horn in the ship Paul Revere, boarding a steamer at San Francisco for Honolulu. On board the steamer he met Mr. Phillips, at which time the friendship begun which continues to the present day.

Arrangements have been made to give the Oceanic liner Sonoma a quick dispatch for Australia upon arrival here Monday morning. The vessel may sail at 3 o'clock in the afternoon for Sydney, following the discharge of a small quantity of general cargo brought down from the coast.

A Japanese woman, a steerage passenger in the Pacific Mail Mongolia, who died on board that vessel last Tuesday evening, was buried at sea. Three little children surviving the mother were presented with a sum of money by passengers. The father is said to be a resident of Sacramento.

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